

Remarks/Arguments

Claims 1, 3, 4, 7-9, 11-12, 15-20, 29, 33 and 34 have been amended. Claim 14 has been canceled.

The Examiner has rejected applicant's claims 1, 2, 5 and 20 under 35 USC § 102(b) as anticipated by the Sakamoto, et al. patent. Claims 3-4, 11-16, 20-21, 25 and 29-34 have been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as unpatentable based on the latter patent taken in view of the Takemoto, et al. patent. Finally, claims 7-8, 9-10, 17, 18-19, 22-24 and 27-28 have been rejected also under 35 USC 103(a) as unpatentable based on the Sakamoto, et al. and Takemoto, et al. patents taken with one or more of the Jeong and Honda patents. With respect to applicant's claims, as amended, these rejections are respectfully traversed.

Applicant's independent claims 1, 12, 20 and 29 have been amended to better define applicant's invention. More particularly, amended claim 1 recites a signal processing device in which an inputting means inputs a video signal, an encoding means encodes to compress an amount of information of the video signal, and a generating means generates a character signal. A memory means is connected to each of the encoding means and the generating means and has a common memory for storing the video signal to perform an encoding process by said encoding means and storing the character signal generated by said generating means to perform a combining operation of the character signal.

Amended claim 12 recites a signal processing device in which an inputting means inputs a compressed video signal, an expanding means expands an amount of information of the compressed video signal and outputs an expanded video signal, and a generating means

generates a character signal. A memory means connects to each of the expanding means and the generating means and has a common memory for storing the compressed video signal to perform an expanding process by the expanding means and stores the character signal generated by the generating means to perform a combining operation of the character signal and the expanded video signal.

Amended claim 20 calls for a signal processing device having an inputting means for inputting a video signal, a processing means for performing a predetermined process on the video signal and outputting a processed video signal, and a generating means for generating a character signal. A memory means connects to each of the processing means and the generating means and has a common memory for storing the video signal and the processed video signal so as to perform the predetermined process by the processing means and stores the character signal generated by the generating means to perform a combining operation of the character signal.

Finally, amended claim 29 recites a recording apparatus in which an inputting means inputs a video signal, a compressing means compresses an amount of information of the video signal and outputs a compressed video signal, a recording means records on a recording medium the compressed video signal, and a generating means generates a character signal. A memory means connects to each of the compressing means, the recording means and the generating means, and has a common memory for storing the video signal to perform a compressing process by the compressing means, the compressed video signal outputted from the compressing means to record on the recording medium by the recording means and the character

signal generated by the generating means to perform a combining operation of the character signal.

Such constructions are not taught or suggested by the cited art of record. More particularly, the cited Sakamoto, et al. patent teaches a display apparatus for receiving and displaying character and graphics data broadcast with television signals. In this apparatus, the character and graphics data are separated from the television signals, and then processed via a character generator and compression circuits coupled to a memory so that the display size (density) of the character and graphics data can be changed. The latter reduced size data can then be combined with the television signals so that both can be displayed simultaneously.

The compression circuits in the Sakamoto, et al. patent are thus used only for reducing the size of the character and graphics data. Thus, the circuits do not equate to an encoding means to encode to compress an amount of information of a video signal, nor a processing means for performing a predetermined process on the video signal and outputting a processed video signal, or compressing means compressing an amount of information of the video signal and outputting a compressed video signal. Nor do they suggest an expanding means expanding an amount of information of a compressed video signal and outputting an expanded video signal.

Furthermore, the memory used in the Sakamoto, et al. patent is connected to the signal generator and compression circuits for the character and graphics data only. There is no memory which connects to encoding means and generating means and has a common memory for storing a video signal to perform an encoding process by the encoding means and storing the character signal generated by the generating means, nor a memory which connects to each of the

expanding means and the generating means and has a common memory for storing the compressed video signal to perform an expanding process by the expanding means and stores the character signal generated by the generating means to perform a combining operation of the character signal and the expanded signal. Nor is there a memory means which connects to each of processing means and generating means and has a common memory for storing a video signal and the processed video signal so as to perform the predetermined process by the processing means and stores the character signal generated by the generating means to perform a combining operation of the character signal, or a memory which connects to each of compressing means, recording means and generating means, and has a common memory for storing a video signal to perform a compressing process by the compressing means, the compressed video signal outputted from the compressing means to record on the recording medium by the recording means and the character signal generated by the generating means to perform a combining operation of the character signal.

In the Sakamoto, et al. patent, as above-mentioned, it is only the character and graphics data that is compressed and served by a common memory, while there is no teaching or suggestion that the video or television signal be similarly treated. Moreover, the Examiner's statement that the Examiner "has interpreted the graphics picture as the video signal not the television signal" is believed to be based on the Examiner's attempt to meet the terms of applicant's claims, rather than on what is taught or suggested by the reference. Such hindsight reconstruction of applicant's invention is untenable and applicant submits that the Sakamoto, et

al. patent fails to teach or suggest the above-discussed features of amended independent claims 1, 12, 20 and 29, and their respective dependent claims.

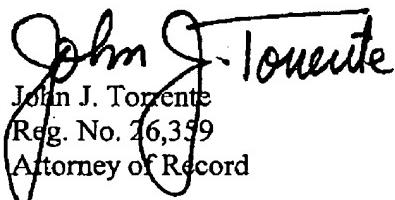
Moreover, the other art cited by the Examiner, i.e., the Takemoto, et al. patent, the Jeong patent and the Honda patent, fails to add anything to the Sakamoto, et al. patent to change this conclusion. In particular, while the Takemoto, et al. patent discloses compression and expansion of digital signal data and the use of a memory, there is no suggestion that such features should or could be implemented in the Sakamoto, et al. patent, where only character and graphics data are compressed so that same can be viewed simultaneously with a television or video signal. Again, the Examiner's attempt at modifying the Sakamoto, et al. system with the Takemoto, et al. patent teachings appears to be based on hindsight, instead of what the references teach or suggest. Applicant's amended independent claims, and their respective dependent claims, thus patentably distinguish over the combination of the Sakamoto, et al., Takemoto, et al., Jeong and Honda patents.

In view of the above, it is submitted that applicant's claims, as amended, patentably distinguish over the cited art of record. Accordingly, reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested.

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Respectfully submitted,

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